

FY 2011 Hoosier National Forest Monitoring Work Plan

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Prepared by: Dale R. Weigel
Hoosier National Forest

Approved by: /s/ Anne Carey
Anne Carey
Acting Forest Supervisor
Hoosier National Forest

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Date

FY 2011 Monitoring Work Plan

Introduction

The *Forest Plan* requires a monitoring plan be prepared annually. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 monitoring plan has been developed. The plan was developed with guidance from the Regional Office and review of the monitoring questions and guidance in Forest Plan Chapter 4 (USDA FS 2006) by the Forest Planner, NEPA coordinator, and Monitoring coordinator. The review accounted for monitoring capability based on FY 2011 budget expectations.

The items to be monitored in FY 2011 are identified in this document along with employee or position responsible for reporting the results in the FY 2011 Monitoring and Evaluation Report.

The fourteen questions respond to 5 of the 7 goals listed in the USDA Forest Service Strategic Plan FY 2007-12 (USDA FS 2007). They also respond to three of Region 9's Courageous Conservation goals (USDA FS 2005) and all eight of the Hoosier Forest Plan goals (USDA FS 2006).

Literature Cited

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2005. Strategic framework for the Eastern Region. Eastern Region. 26 p.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2006. Land and resource management plan--Hoosier National Forest. Eastern Region, Hoosier National Forest. 85 p. + appendices.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2007. USDA Forest Service strategic plan FY 2007-12. Washington, D.C. FS-880. 32 p.

| No. | Monitoring Question | Method | Responsible position or person | FS Strategic Plan Goals | Region 9 Courageous Conservation | Forest Plan Goals |
|-----|---|--|--|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Is this Forest complying with guidance outlined in Forest Plan? | Monitoring reports from on-going projects | Forest Planner and Forest personnel | 1, 5 | 1 | 1-8 |
| 2 | Are insect and disease population levels compatible with objectives for restoring or maintaining healthy forest conditions? | Insect monitoring reports | Chris Thornton, IDNR, and State & Private Forestry | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | Are harvested lands adequately restocked within 5 years? | Stand exams in Tell City Windthrow areas and German Ridge timber sales | Chris Thornton, Todd Dempsey, Jonathan Porier | 1 | 1 | 1, 2 |
| 4 | What are the population trends of management indicator species? | BBS and woodcock surveys | Steve Harriss and Dale Weigel | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 5 | Have there been changes in cave environments? | Measurements at caves | Steve Harriss | 1 | 1 | 1, 2 |
| 6 | How will diversity be affected by various mixes of resource outputs and uses? Ensure that the diversity of plant and animal communities is at least as great as that which would be expected in a natural forest and that reductions in diversity are prescribed only where needed to meet overall multiple use objectives. | Inventory rare plants areas; barrens; treated areas, burns and NNIS areas | Kirk Larson and Jason Isbell | 1 | 1, 3 | 1, 2 |
| 7 | Are we limiting and distributing visitor use in wilderness in accord with periodic estimates of the maximum levels of use that allow natural processes to operate freely and so as not to impair the values? | Analyze dispersed site inventory and monitor according to Wilderness Implementation Schedule | Recreation Staff and Dale Weigel | 1, 4 | 1, 2 | 1, 5, 6 |
| 8 | Are temporary roads closed and revegetated within 10 years of contract or permit termination? | Monitor closed timber harvest areas | Russ Christensen and Jason Harrison | 1, 5 | 1 | 2, 3, 5 |
| 9 | Have the soil and water mitigation and protection measures been effective as applied to all management activities? | Monitor active and completed management activities | Chalonda Jasper, Amanda Kunzmann | 1, 2 | 1 | 2, 3 |

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|----|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|---|---------|
| 10 | Are timber sales meeting Forest Plan ASQ? | Annual sale report. | Chris Thornton and Todd Dempsey | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| 11 | Are mitigation and protection measures correctly applied for ground disturbing activities? | Annual heritage report | Angie Krieger | 1 | 1 | 1, 2, 3 |
| 12 | Are heritage resources being damaged by vandalism? | Annual heritage report | Angie Krieger | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 13 | How do actual costs of carrying out planned management compare to cost estimates? | Budget analysis | Pat McClellan | | 4 | 8 |
| 14 | Does the Forest's land adjustment program support and enhance the Plan's desired conditions and goals and contribute to efficient and effective stewardship? | Annual land status report | Kelly Weigel | 1, 3, 4, 5 | 1 | 6, 7, 8 |

FS Strategic Plan Goals

- 1 Restore, sustain, and enhance the Nation's forests and grasslands
- 2 Provide and sustain benefits to the American people
- 3 Conserve open space
- 4 Sustain and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities
- 5 Maintain basic management capabilities of the Forest Service
- 6 Engage urban America with Forest Service Programs
- 7 Provide science-based applications and tools for sustainable natural resources management

Region 9 Courageous Conservation

- 1 Protect ecosystems across boundaries
- 2 Connect citizens to the land
- 3 Walk the talk for sustainability
- 4 Revolutionize effectiveness and efficiency
- 5 Be an employer of choice

Hoosier National Forest Plan Goals

- 1 Conservation of threatened and endangered species habitat
- 2 Maintain and restore sustainable ecosystems
- 3 Maintain and restore watershed health
- 4 Protect our cultural heritage
- 5 Provide for visually pleasing landscape
- 6 Provide for recreation use in harmony with natural communities
- 7 Provide a usable landbase
- 8 Provide for human and community development